

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Waddill Wildlife Refuge (LAC 76:III.325)

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts a rule establishing visitor regulations for Waddill Wildlife Refuge.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part III. State Game and Fish Preserves and Sanctuaries

Chapter 3. Particular Game and Fish Preserves and Commissions

§325. Waddill Wildlife Refuge

A. Purpose. Waddill Wildlife Refuge will be actively managed as a wildlife educational and learning area for youth groups, nonconsumptive users, and as a hunter safety and aquatic education training center. The following rules and regulations concerning the management, protection and utilization of this refuge have been adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the refuge.

B. General

1. Access to the refuge will only be allowed through the front entrance bordering Flannery Road. All visitors will sign the register at the front office. A group of individuals may have a representative sign for the group by indicating the number in the group. Individuals less than 16 years of age must be accompanied and supervised by a person 18 years of age or older.

2. Vehicles are allowed only in designated areas and must park in provided spaces. ATVs, trail bikes, horses and mules are strictly prohibited. Restricted areas will be established for specific activities and visitors will not enter these areas unless they are part of the specific activity allowing access to that area.

3. All dogs are prohibited unless participating in a department-sponsored activity, such as a retriever demonstration during an educational activity. All dogs running at large are prohibited; and the owner or handler of said dogs will be held liable for any personal injury or property damage, and will be subject to criminal citation.

4. Citizens are cautioned that by entering the refuge they or their vehicles may be subject to license checks, inspections and searches. Wildlife officers will have the duty and right to restrict access to the refuge as necessary.

5. Refuge hours will be set by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (hereinafter "Department") and will be posted at the entrance. All visitors will abide by the posted hours. Educational activities may be held outside the normal open hours of the refuge by prior arrangement and permission of the Department. All participants of these activities will confine their use of the refuge to the designated area of the activity.

6. Hunting, pursuing, killing, molesting, or intentionally disturbing any type of wildlife is prohibited; provided that the Department may conduct activities necessary to properly manage wildlife on the area.

7. Camping is prohibited; provided that the Department is authorized to establish and maintain specific camping areas for use by organized groups under policy established by the Department. If areas are established, they will not be used by the public.

8. Littering is prohibited. Visitors must remove their litter or place litter in appropriate litter disposal containers.

9. Damage to or removal of trees, shrubs, flowers, or wild plants is strictly prohibited.

10. The possession of firearms, bows, and controlled dangerous substances by the public on the refuge is prohibited; provided that the Department is authorized to construct, maintain and operate ranges, in which case, shotguns and bows will be permitted under guidelines developed by the Department.

11. Access to all nature trails is limited to pedestrians only. No vehicles, ATVs, trail bikes, horses or mules are allowed. Individuals utilizing the nature trails must remain on the designated trail. No picnicking is allowed on the trails. All trash must be disposed of in designated litter containers.

12. Individual groups may submit written requests to reserve a specific part of the refuge for a special group

event. The remaining unreserved portion of the refuge shall be open to the public.

13. Violation of any part of this section constitutes a class two violation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:6 et seq. and 56:109.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 22:861 (September 1996).

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